

## Weekly Weather Crop Report

In cooperation with

Mississippi Department of  
Agriculture and Commerce

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Week Ending August 8, 2004

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According to the Mississippi Agricultural Statistics Service, there were 6.5 days suitable for fieldwork for the **week ending August 8, 2004**. Although the drier weather has allowed for good progress in the harvesting of hay, row crop producers are hoping for a few more good rain showers before the growing season comes to an end. Across the state, Mississippi farmers are starting to plan for the 2004 harvest season – irrigation is in full force where needed, harvest equipment is being prepared, and several rice fields have already been drained in preparation. Soil moisture was rated 5 percent very short, 31 percent short, 64 percent adequate.

Progress In Percentages						Conditions in Percentages				
Item	Event	This Week	Last Week	2003	5-Yr Avg	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Corn	Dough	98	95	99	99	1	3	18	52	26
	Dent	88	84	86	91					
	Mature	49	30	33	49					
	Harvested	5	1	2	6					
	Silage Harvested	80	62	79	62					
Cotton	Squaring	100	99	100	100	3	7	25	50	15
	Setting Bolls	95	91	92	98					
Rice	Heading	85	65	90	80	0	1	10	63	26
	Mature	3	0	7	5					
Sorghum	Heading	100	99	99	98	0	1	15	62	22
	Turning Color	88	71	82	74					
	Mature	26	5	33	24					
	Harvested	1	0	--	--					
Soybeans	Blooming	100	99	99	99	0	5	16	52	27
	Setting Pods	97	95	93	91					
	Turning Color	38	25	26	20					
	Shedding Leaves	19	5	7	8					
	Harvested	3	1	1	0					
Hay (Warm Season)	Harvested	64	55	77	75	7	5	27	49	12
Sweetpotatoes						1	7	35	47	10
Watermelons	Harvested	98	95	100	100	--	--	--	--	--
Cattle						0	7	15	61	17
Pasture						5	7	20	56	12

### County Agent Comments

“Some soybeans and corn have been harvested and yields are good. Rice harvest should start next week. Insects are light in cotton.”

— Don Respass, Bolivar

“Irrigation and insecticide applications in cotton and soybeans have been the order of the week. Harvest of early soybeans has begun and corn harvest will begin this week if good weather prevails.”

— Tommy Baird, Sunflower

“The soil is dry and wilted areas are beginning to show in the late afternoons. Without sufficient moisture, decreased yields may be certain.”

— Kay Emmons, Montgomery

“Armyworms are causing problems in hybrid Bermuda grass hay fields. Soybeans are showing good yield potential and should be ready to start harvesting within the next two weeks.”

— Mark Mowdy, Franklin

“This has been another good week for harvesting hay. Sunny skies and lower humidity have helped in curing hay. Fall armyworms are showing up in many fields of millet and Bermuda grass. There is plenty of grass in pastures and cattle look good. Late planted soybeans are looking good.”

— Chuck Grantham, Jones

“Harvest of Group IV beans should begin in 7-10 days. Some of our older rice will be drained within 7-10 days. Cotton and Group V beans need a good rain.”

— Mack Young, Quitman

“The weather has been excellent for harvesting hay. Soil moisture is getting short, but there have been no major problems in crops.”

— Melvin Oatis, Benton

“Things have gotten really slow in the row crop fields. We are looking at some desiccation on some beans probably next week. Everyone is getting the harvest equipment ready.”

— Stephen R. Winters, Grenada

“Drier soils, increased sunlight and cooler temperatures have improved the condition of all crops.”

— Jay Phelps, Pontotoc

“Irrigation activities continue on cotton and later maturing soybeans. Some corn, soybeans and grain sorghum have been harvested with harvesting activities expected to be in full force this week. Some rice fields have been drained in preparation for harvest.”

— Jerry Singleton, Leflore

“Soil moisture has become very limited during the last 7 to 10 days. A few areas received rain, but most of the area remained dry. All crops will sustain yield reductions as a result of this dry period.”

— Ernie Flint, Attala

“Fields crops in Madison appear to be in good condition; however, soil moisture levels are dropping as I write this comment. We could use a good general rain on all crops. The dry weather conditions did, however, allow us to cut and harvest some fairly good hay last week.”

— Otis L. Davis, Madison

“Dry conditions have allowed hay producers to harvest hay without being rained on, but the grass in the pastures and hay fields has slowed growth considerably. We could use a good shower to revitalize pastures and hay fields.”

— Houston Therrell, Rankin

“Dry weather dominated the week. High temperatures at the first of the week increased the moisture shortage, and by 10 a.m. crops were showing moisture stress. Corn is maturing and drying rapidly. Soybean pod fill is lagging behind and there are some reports of worms building in fields. Hay harvest was full throttle all week. For many fields, it was the first cutting and quality was low. Cooler temperatures moderated drying somewhat; however, all crops could use a general rain.”

— Ed Williams, Oktibbeha

“We need a slow, deep-soaking rain to replenish soil moisture for improved growth of forages and crops. This will increase moisture in fallowed ground that is prepared for seeding cool-season grazing pastures of ryegrass and small grains.”

— Lamar Adams, Walthall

“Dry conditions have been very good for hay harvest. Soybeans and corn are doing very well.”

— Mark Gillie, Greene

“Areas in the county are getting dry, but we need rain to keep pastures growing. Poultry operations have enjoyed the drop in temperature and the dry weather has helped dry out litter in houses. There is very little pine beetle damage being reported in forest land, and rain has helped lessen the occurrence.”

— Tommy Bishop, Jasper

“Corn silage harvest continued as did summer hay crops. To date, no reports of armyworms have been received. Spotted showers across the county hampered some field operations last week, but overall most field operations were completed.”

— Victor Lee, Newton

“Producers are pleased with the dry weather for the past week. It has allowed beef cattle producers to cut and bale hay with expected high yields, which will provide forages for the winter months. Watermelon producers have harvested all melons and are determining profits from yields. These producers can also prepare seed beds for fall vegetable production, which should increase farm profitability for the year.”

— Florieda K. Mason, Perry

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Additional comments appear on the Internet at: <http://www.nass.usda.gov/ms/cwyears.htm>

This publication is part of a series that first began in 1872 and has been continuously published since. In Mississippi, this report is a result of the cooperative efforts of:

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# Weather Summary from August 2, 2004 to August 8, 2004 for Mississippi

District/Station	Air Temperature					Precipitation				4 Inch Soil Temperature			Avg Pan Evap
	Max	Min	Avg	Norm	DFN	One Week	DFN	Rain Days	Four Weeks	Max	Min	Avg	
1. Upper Delta													
Charleston	95	62	79	81	-2	0.50	-0.28	1	5.09				
Cleveland				82		0.05	-0.32	1	0.42				
Tunica				81		0.15	-0.44	1	1.38				0.27
Extreme/Average	95	62	79	82	-3	0.23	-0.40	1	2.30				0.27
2. North-Central													
Hickory Flat	92	53	74	79	-5	0.00	-0.85	0	1.48				
Calhoun City	90	55	75	81	-6	0.17	-0.59	1	1.90				
Independence	91	52	74	80	-6	0.00	-0.70	0	0.65				
Oxford				80		0.02	-0.79	1	2.52				
Extreme/Average	92	52	74	80	-6	0.05	-0.72	1	1.64				
3. Northeast													
Booneville	92	57	76	80	-4	0.14	-0.64	1	3.82				
Iuka	89	50	72	77	-5	0.21	-0.70	1	5.32				
Ripley	89	53	73	79	-6	0.00	-0.73	0	3.50				
Tupelo	92	59	78			0.00		0	2.83				
Verona				81		0.00	-0.78	0	1.49				0.28
Extreme/Average	92	50	75	80	-5	0.09	-0.65	1	3.87				
4. Lower Delta													
Moorhead	93	61	79	82	-3	0.02	-0.65	2	3.89				
Rolling Fork	97	63	80	82	-2	0.00	-0.67	0	1.57	102	80	90	
Stoneville	96	61	79	82	-3	0.02	-0.49	1	1.63				0.28
Yazoo City	95	61	79	82	-3	0.00	-0.84	0	1.17				
Extreme/Average	97	61	79	82	-3	0.01	-0.69	1	2.07	102	80	90	0.28
5. Central													
Canton				82		0.10	-0.65	1	2.83				
Carthage	93	60	77	81	-4	0.00	-0.89	0	0.67				
Lexington	92	56	76	80	-4	0.01	-0.69	1	2.88				
Eupora	92	55	76	80	-4	0.05	-0.66	1	2.23				
Extreme/Average	93	55	76	81	-5	0.04	-0.80	1	2.15				
6. East-Central													
Aberdeen	95	59	78	80	-2	0.25	-0.41	1	1.58				0.27
Houston	91	53	75	79	-4	0.29	-0.39	1	1.99				
Louisville				79		0.06	-0.80	1	0.38				
State University	96	57	79	81	-2	0.00	-0.81	0	0.22	87	80	84	0.28
Extreme/Average	96	53	77	81	-4	0.15	-0.65	1	1.04	87	80	84	0.27
7. Southwest													
Crystal Springs	94	64	80	82	-2	0.03	-0.75	1	2.14	100	80	91	
Natchez	95	61	79	82	-3	0.02	-0.82	1	2.14				
Oakley	97	60	80	81	-1	0.91	+0.07	1	2.28	102	78	90	
Vicksburg	96	61	79			1.42		1	2.27				
Extreme/Average	97	60	80	81	-1	0.60	-0.31	1	2.21	102	78	91	
8. South-Central													
Collins	92	64	79	81	-2	0.02	-0.94	1	3.90				
Columbia				82		0.48	-0.62	2	1.95				
Tylertown	96	65	81	81	0	0.00	-1.18	0	1.04				
Extreme/Average	96	64	80	82	-2	0.17	-0.90	1	2.30				
9. Southeast													
Beaumont	97	63	82			0.00		0	2.60				
Hattiesburg	94	65	80	82	-2	0.31	-0.86	1	1.02				
Laurel	93	69	82	81	+1	0.00	-1.01	0	2.23				
Newton	94	57	78	81	-3	0.08	-0.85	1	0.89	93	76	84	0.25
Extreme/Average	97	57	81	81	0	0.10	-0.86	1	1.69	93	76	84	0.25
10. Coastal													
Bay St Louis	96	65	81	82	-1	0.00	-1.49	0	1.62				
Gulfport	94	70	83	83	0	0.00	-1.34	0	1.58				
Poplarville	94	65	81	82	-1	0.00	-1.28	0	1.18	95	69	85	0.40
Waveland	95	69	82	82	0	0.10	-1.18	2	3.71				
Extreme/Average	96	65	82	82	0	0.03	-1.31	1	2.17	95	69	85	0.40
State	97	50	78	81	-3	0.16	-0.71	1	2.07	102	69	87	0.28

DFN = Departure from Normal.